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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hirotaka OHASHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2176

Application No.: 10/652,496

Examiner:

Filed: September 2, 2003

Docket No.: 116706

For: LAYOUT SYSTEM, LAYOUT PROGRAM, AND LAYOUT METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. Please note that CN1339752 (Reference 1) corresponds with EP1176520 (Reference 2).

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Eric D. Morehouse
Registration No. 38,565

JAO:EDM/bmf

Date: December 2, 2005

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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Sheet 1 of 1

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 116706	APPLICATION NO. 10/652,496	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Hirotaka OHASHI et al.		
				FILING DATE September 2, 2003	GROUP 2176	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS
	1	CN 1339752 A	03/13/2002	China		
	2	EP 1 176 520 A2	01/30/2002	European Patent Office		
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)						
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED	
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.						